Reviewer’s report

Title: Pan-London Tuberculosis Services: A Service Evaluation

Version: 1 Date: 16 January 2012

Reviewer: Marie-Laurence L Lambert

Reviewer’s report:

• The issue – how to improve TB services delivery in a large Western city – is definitely important. The article is however specific to London, and not easy to understand for somebody not familiar with specific health services organization in the UK. Findings, conclusions and recommendations have local relevance. Unfortunately they are not analyzed and presented in a way that could have relevance for a readership less interested in London than in what they could learn for their own context. The article is long, and looks more like a report than a research article.

• Methods: documentary analysis: search strategy not defined, inclusion criteria (“met only for 17/86 documents”) are not defined.

Semi-structured interviews and focus group : it is unclear how participants were selected. There were no interviews with patients.

In conclusion, this article has relevance for London, but no broader relevance, and we do not recommend it for publication in BMC public health.

We advise the authors to seek publication in a paper with national focus. The paper would be better if shortened, but with more precise recommendations. For instance they could provide some hints of what “alternative service models” could be

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'